

Christie-Parsels House
195 Jefferson Avenue
Tenafly, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-470

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Christie-Parsels House
195 Jefferson Avenue
Tenafly, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Virgil Jordan ; HERBERT S. BLAYMAN MAY 1951 -

Date of Erection: Wing 1804; main house 1836

Architect:

Builder: William P. Christie wing; Samuel Parsels
main house

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - red sandstone

Exterior walls - main house
red sandstone, south front
dressed; wing stone; frame
addition on west end later
date

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with dormers
of later date

Historical Data:

In 1791 James Christie sold one hundred acres of land for five hundred pounds to William P. Christie, the builder of the wing of the present house. The commissioners to divide the real estate of William P. Christie disposed of the dwelling house and forty acres of land to Abraham Cole in 1832 who sold two years later

to another William Christie. This William Christie transferred the title in 1836 to Samuel Parsels who built the main house that same year. Samuel and his wife sold the property in 1860 to Charles Newcomb. Since that time there have been six transfers recorded. The present owner obtained possession in 1920.

The first of the Christie family James originally came from Scotland in 1685. He was one of the group that was stranded on the Jersey coast by the ship Caledonia. Early in the eighteenth century the family settled at Schraalenburgh. The builder of the wing was a descendant of this first Christie.

The Parsels family are of French origin and originally settled on Long Island sometime during the latter half of the seventeenth century. The first of the Parsels family to come to New Jersey was Nicholas who settled in Hackensack sometime during the first half of the eighteenth century. Samuel, a descendant of this family, was the builder of the "Big House." He owned and operated a saw mill located on the nearby stream.

Bibliography:

Harvey, C. B. Geneological History of Hudson and Bergen County, New Jersey
New York, Geneological Publishing
Company, 1900

Information from Mr. Walter Christie, Haworth, New Jersey; the latter published in 1919 the geneological data of his family under the title Christie

Information from the Parsels
family Bible in the possession
of Miss Ida Parsels

A search of Bergen County records
by Wallace Dunlop, Bergen County
Office

Walter E. Pratt
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer

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